

# REPORT OF THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE NORTHERN KENTUCKY COOPERATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, INC.

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2000

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### EDWARD B. HATCHETT, JR. AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

To the People of Kentucky

Honorable Paul E. Patton, Governor

T. Kevin Flanery, Secretary, Finance and Administration Cabinet

Gene Wilhoit, Commissioner, Department of Education

Robert S. Sherman, Director, Legislative Research Commission

Bernard Sandfoss, Executive Director

Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc.

Board of Directors of the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc.

The enclosed report prepared by Charles T. Mitchell Company, LLP, Certified Public Accountants, presents the financial statements of the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc., Highland Heights, Kentucky, as of June 30, 2000.

We engaged Charles T. Mitchell Company, LLP, to perform the financial audit of this educational cooperative. We worked closely with the firm during our report review process; Charles T. Mitchell Company, LLP, evaluated the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc.'s internal controls and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Respectfully submitted

Edward B. Hatchett, Jr.

Auditor of Public Accounts

Enclosure

#### NORTHERN KENTUCKY COOPERATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, INC.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TOGETHER WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

June 30, 2000

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2000

An audit of the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. for fiscal year ended June 30, 2000 has been completed. No reportable conditions relating to the financial statement were disclosed.

The management letter disclosed the following areas of recommendation: Securities need to be pledged to insure the cash balances beyond the FDIC's insurance amount of \$100,000.

A cash basis financial statement audit was performed on the prior year financial statements, therefore no opinion was issued on the statement of activities and cash flows for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2000. Management was not able to provide financial statements to be audited therefore the State Auditor compiled the financial statements for the fiscal year end June 30, 2000.

An unqualified opinion was issued on the Statement of Financial position.

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. Highland Heights, Kentucky

We have audited the accompanying combined statement of financial position of the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. as of June 30, 2000 and the related combined statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Cooperative's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

Except as discussed in the following paragraph, we conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in the note 1 to the financial statements, Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. reports expenditures for equipment according to prescribed procedures of grant contract terms. These procedures differ from generally accepted accounting principles as the equipment expenditures are not depreciated. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements are not intended to present financial position and results of operations in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. In addition, the prior financial statements were presented using the cash basis of accounting. This basis materially affects the determination of the results of operations using grant funds. Therefore, the scope of our work was not sufficient to enable us to express, and we do not express, an opinion on the accompanying statement of activities and cash flows for the year ended June 30, 2000.

In our opinion, the statement of financial position referred to in the first paragraph presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. as of June 30, 2000 in conformity with the basis of accounting described above.

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued a report dated November 18, 2000 on our consideration of Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

Our audit was made primarily for the purpose of formulating the opinion stated in the preceding paragraph. The supplemental schedules included in this report, although not considered necessary for a fair presentation of financial position and results of operations, are presented as supplementary information and have been subjected to the audit procedures applied to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Charles 7. Matchell Co.

## NORTHERN KENTUCKY COOPERATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, INC. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION June 30, 2000

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents Grant Funds Receivable Accounts Receivable Net Property, Plant and Equipment	\$ 144,164 69,531 56,839 4,853	
TOTAL ASSETS		\$ 275,387
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES Accounts Payable Deferred Revenue	\$ 64,455 164,344	
TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$ 228,799
NET ASSETS Unrestricted	\$ 46,588	
Total Net Assets		 46,588
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		\$ 275,387

	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
SUPPORT AND REVENUE  Membership Dues Program Services Earnings on Investments Other Revenues Intergovernmental - State Intergovernmental - Federal Net Assets Released from Restrictions	\$ 662,435 799 965	\$ 996,812 1,205 10,973 716,570 454,323	\$1,659,247 2,004 11,938 716,570 454,323
Satisfaction of Purpose Restrictions	2,179,883	(2,179,883)	
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$ 2,844,082	\$ 0	\$2,844,082
Personnel Audits Contracted Services Tech Serv Repairs & Maintenance Rental Fees Student Transportation Property Insurance Phone Postage Advertising Printing Travel Lodging General Supplies Food Services Books/Periodicals Student Activities Supplies/Materials Equipment Dues & Fees Miscellaneous Depreciation Indirect Costs	\$ 1,527,012 5,480 672,059 118,190 17,369 2,251 228 8,457 17,894 8,009 2,712 30,116 50,638 17,871 65,657 15,173 24,450 12,941 20,599 37,912 41,222 110,889 1,213 28,082	\$	\$1,527,012 5,480 672,059 118,190 17,369 2,251 228 8,457 17,894 8,009 2,712 30,116 50,638 17,871 65,657 15,173 24,450 12,941 20,599 37,912 41,222 110,889 1,213 28,082
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 2,836,424	\$ 0	\$2,836,424
Change in Net Assets	<u>\$ 7,658</u>	\$	\$ 7,658
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$ 69,464	\$ (30,534)	\$ 38,930
Adjustment	(30,534)	30,534	
Net Assets, Restated	\$ 38,930	\$ 0	\$ 38,930
Net Assets, End of Year	<u>\$ 46,588</u>	\$	\$ 46,588

CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES Change in Net Assets		\$ 7,658
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation (Increase) in Grant Funds Receivable (Increase) in Accounts Receivable Increase in Accounts Payable Increase in Deferred Revenue	\$ 1,213 (69,531) (56,839) 64,455 _164,344	
Total Adjustments		 103,642
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities		\$ 111,300
CASH FLOWS USED FOR INVESTING ACTIVITIES Net Purchases of Equipment	\$ (6,066)	
Net Cash Used by Investing Activities		 (6,066)
NET INCREASE IN CASH		\$ 105,234
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, Beginning of Year		 38,930
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, End of Year		\$ 144,164

#### DISCLOSURE OF ACCOUNTING POLICY

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Cooperative considers all highly liquid debt instruments with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. (the "Cooperative") is a non-profit corporation established to coordinate and administer federal programs for participating Kentucky local school districts; to provide centralized purchasing benefits to the districts; to respond to identified needs of handicapped children served by local education agencies; and to provide for the delivery of special education services by joint agreement with the local education agencies.

Funds to operate the Cooperative are obtained primarily from grant awards from the Kentucky Department of Education and through membership dues paid by local educational districts. Funding for the Cooperative's programs is also provided under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B, Discretionary Grant Program and the Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Grant.

All grants are restricted, and may be used only for purposes specified by the grantor. Each grantor requires separate reporting of support and expenditures and changes in net assets applicable to its funding.

The Cooperative also restricts the use of grants received from state and local sources. These grants are listed also as temporarily restricted until restrictions have been satisfied and revenues and expenditures are recognized as such.

The Cooperative prepares its financial statements using the accrual method. However, disbursements for equipment are shown as expenditures at the time of purchase, unless expended from the unrestricted assets. These procedures are applied according to grant contract terms, but do differ from generally accepted accounting principles.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### NOTE 2 - PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

The Phoenix Program - The Phoenix Program is a regional program serving the most severe students with emotional and behavioral disabilities. This program, like all other cooperative programs, is under the direction of the advisory committee consisting of superintendents and special education directors. Part of the funding is received from the Kentucky Education Consortium of State Agency Children (KASAC). The funds are based on a formula of the number of eligible children served in the program.

Special Education Consortium - All sixteen-member districts participate in the Special Education Consortium. The Kentucky Department of Education awards the federal IDEA state-share restricted funds to the Cooperative based upon a grant proposal presented to them in March. This proposal is based on the approval of the Board of Directors. The focus of the budget is on direct services to children. These services include occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, medical evaluations, tuition and transportation costs. Technical assistance is also included. Districts determine how these funds are to be used to provide for the unmet needs of exceptional children.

<u>First Steps Project</u> - The First Steps project is totally funded and the Cabinet for Families and Children/Division of Mental Retardation sets the budget. Three staff members are employed through this grant project which focuses on infants and toddlers with special needs and program monitoring. The project is designed to provide technical assistance and parent support for service providers and families participating in the project.

<u>Learning Academy</u> - Eleven districts participate in this regional alternative school program which is housed in the Newport, Campbell County and Erlanger-Elsmere school districts. The program serves seventy-nine students in grades 4-12 who have problems in the traditional school program and are at-risk for academic failure and dropping out of school. The project has obtained phenomenal success and is recognized across the Commonwealth as an exemplary program. Part of the funding is provided through a grant from the Center for School Safety.

<u>Carl Perkins Consortium</u> - Perkins funds were used to improve vocational education programs in the consortium districts. These are districts whose basic allotments are less than \$15,000 and must pool their allocations. Funds are used to purchase equipment, to upgrade curriculum to better align with vocational mandates of KERA; improve and update technology programs and staff development programs provided to implement assessment plans, teaching strategies and developing appropriate Individual Student Vocational Plans.

<u>Flexible Spending Accounts Management</u> - Employees from fifteen districts plus the Cooperative have an option of participating in the Flexible Spending Accounts program. A Board of Governors consisting of representatives from participating districts oversees the operation of the Flex Plan program. It should also be noted that the Flex Plan falls under the umbrella of all Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. functions and is exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as a non-profit agency.

<u>Vocational Rehabilitation</u> - The Department of Vocational Rehabilitation contracts with the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services to provide vocational assessments to school-aged clients who are eligible for Vocational Rehabilitation services. Referrals are made from the Vocational Rehabilitation counselors to the Center. Assessment information is provided to the schools, students and counselors.

<u>Professional Development Consortium</u> - Nine districts are members of the Professional Development Consortium. The Advisory Committee determines the professional development offerings which are made available in the fall, spring and summer for participating and non-participating districts. Participating districts have established dues formula and session costs for the program.

Technology Consortium - Eight districts participate in the Technology Consortium. The actual costs of participating in the Technology Consortium vary from district to district. The amount depends on how much time and type of service each district wants. Global Business Solutions has agreed to provide the services. A one dollar (\$1.00) administrative charge per hour is added to cover secretary services and other coordination costs involved.

<u>State MOA</u> - This Memorandum of Agreement is for personnel services through the Kentucky Department of Education. It was developed for personnel serving in the Regional Centers who did not have an affiliation with a local school district.

 $\underline{\mathit{Family Resource}}$  - The Memorandum of Agreement is for personnel services through the Kentucky Department of Families and Children. It is for Family and Youth Service Center Consultants who are serving in the Regional Centers.

<u>Teacher Academy</u> - The grant was provided through the Kentucky Department of Education, Division of Professional Development for summer teacher institutes and other professional development offerings that were provided through the Region 4 Service Center.

 $\underline{\text{Model Schools}}$  - The Behavior Initiative Model School will provide training and technical assistance to selected schools to support them in their quest to develop proactive, instructional and responsibility-based discipline policies and practices.

Writing Grant - Provides for writing consultants workshop expenses.

#### NOTE 3 - PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

The Cooperative purchased computer equipment during the current year. This Cooperative depreciates computer equipment using the straight-line method over a three year useful life. Depreciation expense for the current year totaled \$1,213. The balance of equipment used by the Cooperative is as follows:

Equipment \$ 6,066 Accumulated Depreciation (1,213)

Net Property, Plant and Equipment

\$ 4,853

#### NOTE 4 - CONCENTRATIONS OF CREDIT RISK

The Cooperative had uninsured deposits with its financial institutions over the FDIC insurance amount during the current year. The highest balance of uninsured deposits occurred on February 25, 2000. The amount uninsured totaled \$267,442.

#### NOTE 5 - OTHER

The revenues and expenditures represented in the "Other" column in the Statement of Activity - By Fund are miscellaneous grants which were active during the current year and do not have cash balances at the fiscal year end. These grants were remitted back to the grantor.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULES

#### FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

ASSETS	GENERAL FUND	CARL PERKINS FUND	IDEA <u>FUND</u>	MODEL SCHOOL	WRITING <u>GRANT</u>	FAMILY RESOURCE
Cash & Cash Equivalents Grant Funds Receivable Accounts Receivable Net Property, Plant & Equipment	\$ (3,734) 56,839 4,853	\$(35,352) 35,352	\$	\$96,747	\$5,816	\$ (46) 1,166
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 57,958	\$	\$	\$96,747	\$5,816	\$1,120
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS						
LIABILITIES Accounts Payable Deferred Revenue	\$ 11,370	\$	\$	\$ 1,818 _94,929	\$ 698 _5,118	\$ _1,120
TOTAL LIABLITIES	\$ 11,370	\$	\$	\$96,747	<u>\$5,816</u>	\$1,120
NET ASSETS Unrestricted	<u>\$ 46,588</u>	\$	\$	\$	<u>\$</u>	\$
Total Net Assets	\$ 46,588	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 57,958	\$	\$	\$96,747	\$5,816	\$1,120

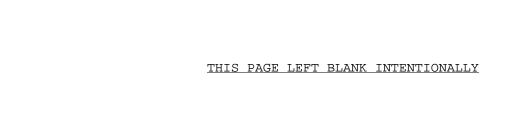
### NORTHERN KENTUCKY COOPERATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, INC. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION - BY FUND June 30, 2000

STATE PERSONNEL	VOC <u>REHAB</u>	FIRST STEPS	LEARNING <u>ACADEMY</u>	PHOENIX PROGRAM	FLEXIBLE SPENDING <u>ACCOUNT</u>	TEACHER ACADEMY	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	TECHNOLOGY	TOTALS (Memorandum Only
\$	\$ (4,811) 4,870	\$ (6,929) 6,929	\$ 6,810	\$18,775	\$(2,537) 21,214	\$64,313	\$ 4,779	\$ 333	\$ 144,164 69,531 56,839
\$	\$ 59	\$	\$ 6,810	\$18,775	\$18,677	\$64,313	\$ 4,779	\$ 333	<u>4,853</u> \$ 275,387
\$	\$ 59	\$	\$ <u>6,810</u>	\$ _18,775	\$ <u>18,677</u>	\$50,510 13,803	\$ <u>4,779</u>	\$ 333	\$ 64,455 164,344
\$	\$ 59	\$	\$ 6,810	\$18,775	\$18,677	\$64,313	\$ 4,779	\$ 333	\$ 228,799
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 46,588
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 46,588
\$	\$ 59	\$	\$ 6,810	\$18,775	\$18,677	\$64,313	\$ 4,779	S 333	\$ 275,387

	GENERAL FUND	CARL PERKINS FUND	IDEA FUND	MODEL SCHOOL	WRITING GRANT	FAMILY RESOURCE	STATE PERSONNEL
REVENUES							
From Local Sources  Membership Dues Program Services Earnings on Investments Other Revenues	\$662,434 799 965	\$ 2,025	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Intergovernmental - State Intergovernmental - Federal		49,905	341,124	29,987	4,684	172,570	166,039
TOTAL REVENUES	\$664,198	\$ 51,930	\$ 341,124	\$ 29,987	\$ 4,684	\$172,570	\$ 166,039
EXPENDITURES							
Personnel	\$253,685	\$ 1,221	\$ 151,805	\$ 6,950	\$	\$171,105	\$ 157,351
Audits Contracted Services	2,580 286,668	1,000 27,500	116,396				
Tech Serv	75,792	27,300	19,307				
Repairs & Maintenance	•		1,190				
Rental Fees	162						
Student Transportation	2 000						
Property Insurance Phone	3,982 761		649			39	
Phone Postage	1,970		649			39 70	12
Advertising	1,970					70	12
Printing`	4,428		5,360			122	
Travel	6,871	3,561	9,747	1,974			
Lodging	3,983			13,888			
General Supplies	3,892		9,097		2,549	804	
Food Services	485					400	
Books/Periodicals	0 200		4 000		1,636	430	
Student Activities Supplies/Materials	8,329	8,421	4,000 7,975				
Equipment	2,081	0,421	13,744				
Dues & Fees	32,113	8,213	13,711				
Miscellaneous	32,113	801	1,854				286
Depreciation		1,213	1,001				200
Indirect Costs				7,175	499		8,390
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$687,782	\$ 51,930	\$ 341,124	\$ 29,987	\$ 4,684	\$172,570	\$ 166,039
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$(23,584)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

### NORTHERN KENTUCKY COOPERATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, INC. STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY - BY FUND June 30, 2000

VOC REHAB	FIRST STEPS	LEARNING ACADEMY	PHOENIX PROGRAM	FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT	TEACHER ACADEMY	ESSIONAL ELOPMENT	TEC	HNOLOGY_	 <u>OTHER</u>	TOTALS (Memorandum Only)
\$	\$	\$456,791	\$299,280	\$ 88,867	\$	\$ 37,128	\$	74,926	\$ 39,821	\$1,659,247
3,385 50,218	271 101,858	59	4,400		110,187	 		47	 1,205 786 111,014 33,307	2,004 11,938 716,570 454,323
\$ 53,603	\$102,129	\$456,850	\$303,680	\$ 88,867	\$110,187	\$ 37,128	\$	74,973	\$ 186,133	\$2,844,082
\$ 42,891	\$ 89,001	\$399,558 100	\$179,828	\$ 54,289	\$	\$ 13,891 300	\$	2,000	\$ 3,437 1,500	\$1,527,012 5,480
	51	12,533	53,552	1,212	2,150	10,371		62,300	99,326	672,059
	95	717 9,590	180 4,552	727		1 015			22,194	118,190 17,369
	95	9,590	4,552	73		1,215			2,016	2,251
		228		, 3					2,010	228
									4,475	8,457
972	1,692	4,986	1,619	635		517			6,024	17,894
93	446	146	75	1,572		204		63	3,358	8,009
286	220	722 6,098	259 3,172	1,648		2,503			1,731 6,279	2,712 30,116
800	6,872	2,002	1,916	222		3,564		6	13,103	50,638
000	0,072	2,002	1,510	222		3,301		O	13,103	17,871
851	921	32,276	2,724	4,952	3,682	3,909				65,657
	228	973	,	,	2,411	3,806		720	6,550	15,173
384	251	651	3,584	575	10,916				6,023	24,450
		527	85							12,941
	308		3,562	43					290	20,599
	E E 2	12,687	9,400							37,912
	553	50 1,452	293 189		87,250	84		67	18,907	41,222 110,889
		1,452	109		07,230	04		0 /	10,907	1,213
	1,491	1,122	510		4,363	4,532				28,082
					-	 				
\$ 46,277	\$102,129	\$486,418	<u>\$265,500</u>	\$ 65,948	\$110,772	\$ 44,896	\$	65,155	\$ 195,213	\$2,836,424
\$ 7,326	\$	\$(29,568)	\$ 38,180	\$ 22,919	\$ (585)	\$ (7,768)	\$	9,818	\$ (9,080)	\$ 7,658



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND INTERNAL CONTROLS OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the Board of Directors Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. Lexington, Kentucky

We have audited the financial statements of Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. as of and for the year ended June 30, 2000 and have issued our report thereon dated November 18, 2000. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

#### Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc.'s financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>.

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weaknesses in a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended for the information and use of the management and federal award agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

Charles 7. Matchell Co.

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

To the Board of Directors Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. Lexington, Kentucky

#### Compliance

We have audited the compliance of Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. with the types of compliance requirements described in the *U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2000. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to each of its major federal programs is the responsibility of the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc.'s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc.'s compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, <u>Audits of States</u>, <u>Local Governments</u>, <u>and Non-Profit Organizations</u>. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc.'s compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination on Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc.'s compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2000.

#### Internal Control Over Compliance

The management of Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc.'s control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that noncompliance with applicable requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants that would be material in relation to a major program being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over compliance and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended for the information of management and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Charles 7 Matchell Co.

Grantor	Grant	Federal CFDA <u>Number</u>	Federal Award <u>Expenditures</u>
Department of Education	Carl Perkins	84.048	\$ 51,930
Department of Education	IDEA	84.027	341,124
Department of Education	Model School		29,987
	Total Grant Expenditures		\$ 423,041

NORTHERN KENTUCKY COOPERATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, INC. SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS For The Year Ended June 30, 2000

SECTION I - SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS		
Financial Statements		
Type of auditor's report issued: Statement of Financial Position Statement of Activities Statement of Cash Flows		Unqualified Disclaimer Disclaimer
Internal control over financial reporting:		
Material weaknesses identified?	Yes	X No
Reportable conditions identified not considered to be material weaknesses?	Yes	<u>X</u> None Reported
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	Yes	X No
Federal Awards		
IDEA Basic Special Education		
SECTION II - FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS		
No matters were reported.		
SECTION III - FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED	COSTS	

No matters were reported.

Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. Highland Heights, Kentucky

We have examined the financial statements of Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. for the year ended June 30, 2000 and have issued our report thereon dated November 18, 2000. As part of our examination, we made a study and evaluation of the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc.'s system of internal accounting control to the extent we considered necessary to evaluate the system as required by generally accepted auditing standards. The purpose of our study and evaluation was to determine the nature, timing, and extent of the auditing procedures necessary for expressing an opinion on the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc.'s financial statements. Out study and evaluation was more limited than would be necessary to express an opinion on the system of internal accounting control taken as a whole.

The management of the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. is responsible for establishing and maintaining a system of internal accounting control. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of control procedures. The objectives of a system are to provide management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the system to dispatch its duties.

Because of inherent limitations in any system of internal accounting control, errors or irregularities may nevertheless occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of the system to future periods is subject to the risk that procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the degree of compliance with the procedures may deteriorate.

Our study and evaluation made for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph would not necessarily disclose all material weaknesses in the system. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the system of internal accounting control of the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. taken as a whole. We noted no matters involving internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we considered to be material weaknesses.

However, during our audit, we became aware of some matters that are opportunities for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency.

1. The Cooperative maintained cash balances in excess of the FDIC insured limit of 100,000 at certain times during the fiscal year.

We recommend that undue concentration of risk be avoided and excess funds be invested in accordance with strict investment policy.

We have enjoyed working with the management and staff of the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services, Inc. and look forward to a continuing, mutually productive relationship. Please call us if you have any questions concerning this letter or if we can be of any other assistance.

Respectfully submitted:

Charles 7 Mtchelle Co.

Charles T. Mitchell Co. November 18, 2000